

U.S. Appln. S.N. 10/518,404
AMENDMENT

PATENT

REMARKS

This Amendment adds new claims 14-19 and amends claims 1-4 and 7-9. The features of new claims 14-19 comprises the preferred embodiments deleted from claims 1, 3 and 9. Claims 1-19 are pending, although claims 11-13 have been withdrawn from further consideration.

This Amendment overcomes the objection to claim 1. More particularly, claim 1 has been amended to recite the silicone preparation is formed in step (IV) rather than step (III). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claim 1 are earnestly requested.

The provisional obvious-type double patenting rejection of claims 1, 4, 5, 8 and 9 over claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 and 9 of co-pending Application S.N. 10/518,344 is acknowledged. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw this provisional rejection. Once this application has issued, a non-provisional obvious-type double patenting rejection can be made in the '344 application, if appropriate.

The 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) rejection of claims 1-10 over International Publication WO 98/05723, corresponding to U.S. Patent No. 6,369,184 to Bohin et al., is traversed. The claimed process includes crosslinking a specified liquid silicone preparation in

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such a way that the resulting crosslinked silicone element has a surface density SD of unreacted, residual alkenyl groups greater than or equal to 0.0015 per nm². These unreacted, residual alkenyl groups permit excellent bonding with another silicone element obtained in the same manner (Specification, page 5, lines 1-7).

Bohin et al. fails to raise a prima facie case of obviousness against the claimed process. More particularly, Bohin et al. fails to suggest the production of a crosslinked silicone element having the required surface density of residual unreacted alkenyl groups, or its subsequent reaction with a crosslinkable polyoorganosilixane preparation.

Bohin et al. is directed to cold-curing silicone compositions which do not contain fillers, which can be manufactured into a very thin coating layer suitable for airbags (Col. 3, lines 1-8 and Col. 3, lines 32-38). One of ordinary skill in the art is given no suggestion or motivation from Bohin et al. to adjust its silicone composition such that the resulting crosslinked coating has a surface density of unreacted residual alkenyl groups greater than or equal to 0.0015 per nm², or that the crosslinked coating would exhibit improved adhesion to another silicone element. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness rejection of claims 1-10 over Bohin et al. are earnestly requested.

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It is believed this application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections of claims 1-10, and issuance of a Notice of Allowance directed to at least claims 1-10 and 14-19, are earnestly requested. The Examiner is urged to telephone the undersigned should he believe any further action is required for allowance.

It is not believed any fee is required for entry and consideration of this Amendment. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-1258 in the amount of any such required fee.

Respectfully submitted,

James C. Lydon
Reg. No. 30,082

Atty. Case No.: PLAS-024
100 Daingerfield Road
Suite 100
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Telephone: (703) 838-0445
Facsimile: (703) 838-0447